(b) if so, the extent of fall in production of sugar and the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the impact of this decline on the sugar export particularly in the context of unattractive international prices of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The sugar production during the second month of current 1996-97 season *i.e.* November, 1996 was 6.79 lakh tonnes as against 11.59 lakh tonnes in the month of November, 1995 representing a fall of 41.4.%. The reason for the shortfall can be attributed to delayed commencement of crushing operations for the season 1996-97 on account of prolonged crushing in 1995-96 sugar season.

(d) The fall in production of that particular month would not have any impact on export in view of the fact that production picked up in subsequent months and that the current season had started with high level of carry over stocks.

Bangladeshi Culprits

1714. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Police has arrested some Bangladeshis involved in the cases of murder, decoities, etc. during 1996 and 1997 todate;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of cases registered against Bangladeshis in Delhi and in the neighbouring States for various offences; and

(c) the action taken against the illegal infiltrators and to deport them to their home country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Crime Branch of Delhi Police arrested 58 illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in connection with 53 cases of decoity, etc. as per details given in the attached statement, during 1996 and 1997 (upto 25.2.97). None of these cases involved murder.

Law and order being a State subject, the State Governments handle the matters relating to involvement of illegal immigrants in anti-social activities in their respective jurisdiction.

(c) While identification/deportation of illegal immigration is a continuing process, the Government have taken several measures for prevention/detection of illegal migration from Bangladesh. These include, *inter alia*, construction of network of roads/fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh Border, intensification of riverine patrolling by the Border Security Force and strengthening of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes.

Statement

Year	Murder	Dacoity	Forgery	Theft	Arms Act	Foreigners Act	Kidnapping	Robbery	Attempt to Murder	Careless Driving	Total
1996	—	2	5	34	3	2	1	1	1	1	50
1997 (upto 25.2.97)	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	—	2	7	35	3	2	1	1	1	1	53

Horticulture Development Plan for Karnataka

1715. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any integrated Horticulture Development Plan;

(b) if so, the amount sought by the State Government for the purpose;

(c) the amount released so far for the implementation of the said plan; and

(d) the places where the plan is already under implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Poaching of Animals

1716. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of wild animals is continuing unabated which is testified by frequent seizures of animals skins, furs, tiger bones etc.; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) It is not a fact that poaching of wild animals is continuing unabated, although there is some poaching of wild animals in the country. The frequent seizures of wildlife products testify increased detection, due to greater vigilance and enforcement activities.

(b) The measures taken to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and their derivatives include :

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

(ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii) A network of 447 wildlife sanctuaries and 83 National Parks covering 1,50,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

(iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all major enforcement organisations such as : Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and Foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

(v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1996.

(vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies, if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.

(vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.

(viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

(ix) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.

(x) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mainly at the major export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

Militant Activities at International Border

1717. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up the matter of militant activities being carried on by ISI of Pakistan at Indo-Nepal border with the Government of Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the sneaking in of the militants across the border ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Government is in regular touch with His Majesty's Government of Nepal on various issues including security issues. During the visit of the Foreign Minister of Nepal to India in August, 1996 the subject of security and measures to counter militancy/terrorism was discussed. Both sides reiterated their commitment not to allow militant activities in territory of either country prejudicial to the security of each other. It was also decided that in order to discourage movements of undesirable elements across the border, there should be a more effective system of monitoring of movement across the border. Regular exchange of views takes place between concerned authorities in India and Nepal to tackle specific issues.

(d) All concerned specially in bordering areas have been alerted to keep strong vigil to prevent frequent entry and exit of undesirable elements. Some of the measures adopted are as follows :—

(a) The Government have taken steps to check the efforts of the Pak ISI by increasing the number of Police posts and intelligence network on the border and by advising the concerned States to intensity